(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the amount is proposed to be provided; and

(d) whether any concrete programme have been formulated by the Union Government for timely completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Central loan assistance of Rs. 95 crores was approved for Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during 1996-97. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 71.25 crores was released and the said amount was fully utilised by the State Government.

(d) State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are to contribute their share of funds from their budgets for scheduled completion of the project. In addition, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme is being continued in 1997-98 also.

[English]

Sponsorship for Wills World Cup

3068. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India management paid $35,000 as sponsorship for Wills World Cup arranging the same through an agent who is the relative/close family friend of the Commercial Director, Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the terms and conditions of the said sponsorship, coming through a FAX message, was accepted in toto without negotiations;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether Air India's finance permit such huge expenditure; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) Air India Mangement paid a sum of US $35,000 to M/s. PILCOM as sponsorship fee. The terms of sponsorship were finalised after negotiations held directly with the Convener-Secretary of PILCOM.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Board of Directors of Air India Limited had approved the proposal of sponsorship. Besides getting ticketed business of about Rs. 2.24 crores, Air India got wide publicity on the electronic media.

Permission to Collect Money for Calicut Airport

3069. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have accorded permission to any agency/society to collect money from the Non-Resident Indians for the development of Calicut airport in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of money thus collected from abroad by this agency/society;

(c) whether the Airport Authority of India has given permission to the society to construct/set up a luxurious V.I.P. type waiting room for the exclusive use of certain Non-Resident Indians; and

(d) if so, the areas of space allotted and fee/charge levied by the Airport Authority for such service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) A proposal was received from the State Government of Kerala for extension of runway of Calicut airport for wide-bodied aircraft with the financial help of public, including non-resident Indians. The Malabar International Airport Development Society (MIADS), set up by the State Government of Kerala, undertook the responsibility of mobilising resources and providing the funds to Airports Authority of India as advance to be repaid out of the earnings of the airport. The Central Governemnt has given its no objection to the proposal. As per the agreement Rs. 60 crores is to be collected by MIADS and handedover to AAI in two instalments of Rs. 30 crores each. The details of money collected from abroad by the MIADS are not maintained by Airports Authority of India.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India has allotted, free of charges, a built up area of about 300 sq.ft. to the MIADS, who have furnished the area and manage its use.

Crude Oil

3070. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister